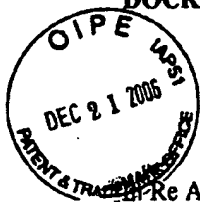


AF
ZPW

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-2851/306821.01

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Pal, et al.

Confirmation No.: 1679

Application No.: 10/693,158

Group Art Unit: 2164

Filing Date: October 24, 2003

Examiner: Cory C. Bell

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR STORING AND RETRIEVING XML DATA
ENCAPSULATED AS AN OBJECT IN A DATABASE STORE**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: December 19, 2006

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID,
ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS
ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Steven B. Samuels

TYPED NAME: Steven B. Samuels
REGISTRATION NO.: 37,711

☐ MS Amendment ☒ MS AP
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

*okay to enter
per RCE 3/19/07
KWS
3/21/07*

REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

- ☐ A Preliminary Amendment.
- ☒ A Reply Responsive to the Office Action Dated September 19, 2006.
- ☐ A Reply Supplemental to the Paper filed
- ☐ A Substitute Specification (pages 1 -) in clean form.
- ☐ A substitute specification (pages 1 -) with markings.
- ☐ An Abstract is enclosed.
- ☐ replacement sheets of drawings are enclosed comprising figures
- ☐ Request is hereby made to accept black and white photograph(s) in this case, as they are the only practicable medium for illustrating the claimed invention. One (1) set of black and white photographs comprising figure(s) is submitted herewith.

*D. Abt
Encl
CP*